BEFORE THE ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD

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In the Matter of

TAMMY TADOM, M.D.

In the State of Arizona.

Holder of License No. 31547

For the Practice of Allopathic Medicine

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Case No: MD-05-0885A

INTERIM FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND ORDER FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION OF LICENSE

INTRODUCTION

The above-captioned matter came on for discussion before the Arizona Medical Board on September 27, 2005. After reviewing relevant information and deliberating, the Board considered proceedings for a summary action against the license of Tammy Tadom, M.D. ("Respondent"). Having considered the information in the matter and being fully advised, the Board enters the following Interim Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order for Summary Suspension of License, pending formal hearing or other Board action. A.R.S. § 32-1451(D).

INTERIM FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. The Board is the duly constituted authority for licensing and regulating the practice of allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.
- 2. Respondent is the holder of License No. 31547 for the practice of allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.
- 3. The Board initiated case number MD-05-0885A on August 22, 2005 after being informed that Kayenta Health Center ("Kayenta") had revoked her staff membership and privileges and terminated her contract after she was found to have diverted narcotics from a patient for her personal use.

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- 4. Respondent was working at Kayenta through Medical Doctors Associates, Inc. ("Medical Doctors"). Medical Doctors had a contract with Kayenta to provide physicians to work at Kayenta. According to Kayenta, Respondent was found with two partially empty bottles of Acetaminophen/Oxycodone with blank labels. When confronted by Kayenta personnel she admitted to diverting the medications for personal use by using the patient's identification to remove the medications from an automatic dispenser. Respondent admitted she proceeded to write the medications in the patient's chart as prescribed and dispensed to the patient even though she kept them for her personal use and did not dispense them to the patient.
- 5. Board Investigative Staff made repeated attempts to contact Respondent at her address, phone number and e-mail addresses of record. On August 24, 2005 the Investigator called all phone numbers of record for Respondent. At one number, a voice message was left for Respondent to contact the Investigator as soon as possible. At a second number, the person who answered the call told the Investigator Respondent was unknown to them. At a third number, the Investigator spoke to a woman who stated she had received numerous calls for Respondent, but the phone number was new to her and she believed she had been assigned a phone number that had been Respondent's.
- 6. The Investigator sent an e-mail to Respondent's e-mail address of record on August 24, 2005 informing Respondent of the open investigation and asking her to contact the Investigator immediately and provide current personal contact information. The e-mail was not returned as undeliverable nor did Respondent respond. A notice letter was sent to Respondent on August 24, 2005 to her address of record in Salt Lake City, Utah. The notice was not returned by the Post Office as undeliverable and Respondent did not respond. A notice was sent on September 8, 2005 to an address for Respondent in Stockbridge, Georgia and a second notice was sent to the Salt Lake City address. The

notices were not returned by the Post Office as undeliverable and Respondent did not respond.

- 7. The Investigator contacted Medical Doctors on September 2, 2005 and left a message asking for assistance in locating Respondent. That call was not returned. On September 9, 2005 the Investigator sent a letter to Medical Doctors again requesting information on Respondent. The letter was not returned by the Post Office as undeliverable and the Investigator received no response.
- 8. Respondent called the Investigator on September 27, 2005 and left a message with a new phone number. Respondent stated she had recently received the notice letters and was in the process of obtaining legal counsel. The Investigator returned the call on September 28, 2005 and left a message asking Respondent to call with a current address and fax number in order for the Investigator to mail and fax a notice of the summary action meeting scheduled for noon. The Investigator also provided an 800 number for Respondent to call to participate in the meeting. The Investigator searched the location of the area code for the phone number provided by Respondent and it was from the Tampa, Florida area. The Investigator placed another call to Respondent at 10:30 a.m. on September 28 and left a second message with the call-in number for the meeting. The Investigator also sent an e-mail with this information.
- 9. Respondent has been licensed in multiple states, but the only current active out-of-state license is in Florida. The Florida Medical Board indicates Respondent's license is active with no actions taken against it.
- 10. Respondent's failure to respond to the Board's inquiries has prevented the Board from evaluating Respondent to determine whether she is an impaired physician.
- 11. The facts as presented demonstrate that the public health, safety or welfare imperatively requires emergency action.

INTERIM CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Board possesses jurisdiction over the subject matter hereof and over Respondent, holder of License No. 31547 for the practice of allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.
- 2. The conduct and circumstances described above constitute unprofessional conduct pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1401(27)(g) ("[u]sing controlled substances except if prescribed by another physician for use during a prescribed course of treatment") and A.R.S. § 32-1401(27)(dd) ("[f]ailing to furnish information in a timely manner to the board or the board's investigators or representatives if legally requested by the board.")
- 3. Based on the foregoing Interim Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the public health, safety or welfare imperatively requires emergency action. A.R.S. § 32-1451(D).

<u>ORDER</u>

Based on the foregoing Interim Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, set forth above, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1. Respondent's license to practice allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona, License No. 31547, is summarily suspended pending a formal hearing before an Administrative Law Judge from the Office of Administrative Hearings.
- 2. The Interim Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law constitute written notice to Respondent of the charges of unprofessional conduct made by the Board against her. Respondent is entitled to a formal hearing to defend these charges as expeditiously as possible after the issuance of this order.
- 3. The Board's Executive Director is instructed to refer this matter to the Office of Administrative Hearings for scheduling of an administrative hearing to be commenced

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as expeditiously as possible from the date of the issuance of this order, unless stipulated and agreed otherwise by Respondent.

DATED this 28 day of September 2005.



ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD

ORIGINAL of the foregoing filed this 225 day of September 2005 with:

The Arizona Medical Board 9545 E. Doubletree Ranch Road Scottsdale, Arizona 85258

Executed copy of the foregoing mailed by U.S. Certified Mail this 28 day of September 2005, to:

Tammy Tadom, M.D. Address of Record

Dean Brekke Assistant Attorney General Arizona Attorney General's Office 1275 West Washington, CIV/LES Phoenix, Arizona 85007